

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00718 051220Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 MMO-01 /128 W  
-----121924 060518Z /17

R 050928Z APR 78  
FM USINT BAGHDAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5954  
INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 0718

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, PDEV, IZ  
SUBJ: NEW IRAQ OIL FIELDS

REF: (A) CERP 4250, (B) ATHENS 2258 (NOTAL)

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTED APRIL 1 THAT LEHAIS FIELD, LOCATED SOUTHWEST OF BASRA, WILL BE INAUGURATED APRIL 7 ON THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE BAATH PARTY. THE FIELD HAS AN INITIAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF 2.5 MILLION TONS A YEAR AND INCLUDES DEGASSING FACILITIES. THE STATE ORGANIZATION FOR OIL PROJECTS WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENGINEERING AND GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE PROJECT, THE STATE CONTRACTING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY EXECUTED THE CIVIL WORKS, AND THE SOVIET COMPANY TECHNOEXPORT PROVIDED THE EQUIPMENT. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIELD TOOK 26 MONTHS AND COST 6 MILLION ID (20 MILLION DOLLARS). PRODUCTION WILL BE PUMPED TO RUMAILA.

2. IN WHAT MAY BE AN INDICATION OF ANOTHER NEW FIELD, THE BAGHDAD PRESS HAS ALSO RECENTLY PUBLISHED A TENDER NOTICE OF THE STATE ORGANIZATION FOR NORTHERN OIL, THE KIRKUK-BASED  
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SUBSIDIARY OF THE IRAQ NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (INOC). TENDER CALLED FOR BIDS ON THE CIVIL WORKS FOR WELLS K-X AND K-Y IN THE SARALEW (PHONETIC) REGION OF THE GOVERNORATE OF ARBIL.

3. COMMENT. ARTICLE ON LEHAIS FIELD MADE NO MENTION OF INSTRUMENTATION PROCURED FROM US FIRM POWELL INDUSTRIES OF HOUSTON, TEXAS. AT REQUEST OF TECHNOEXPORT, REPRESENTATIVE

OF POWELL VISITED BAGHDAD IN LATE MARCH TO CHECK  
INSTRUMENTS PRIOR TO FIELD'S INAUGURATION (SEE REFTEL).  
USINT HAS INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO EVALUATE SIGNIFICANCE OF  
TENDER NOTICE FOR WELLS NEAR ARBIL AND FORWARDS INFORMATION FOR  
WASHINGTON'S ASSESSMENT. ACCORDING TO IRAQI PRACTICE, THE  
FIRST OF THE TWO ALPHABETIC DESIGNATORS OF THE WELLS INDICATES  
THE FIELD AND THE SECOND THE WELL SITE. TO USINT'S KNOWLEDGE  
THERE IS NO CURRENT SIGNIFICANT PRODUCTION IN THE ARBIL  
VICINITY.  
MACK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OIL FIELDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BAGHDA00718  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 ATHENS 2258  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3073955  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW IRAQ OIL FIELDS  
**TAGS:** ENRG, PDEV, IZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014